

CLAIMS

Please cancel original claims 1-24 without prejudice.

25. (New) A sliding door for motor vehicles, having an outer door skin, an inner door skin and a door inside trim,

 said sliding door being supported on at least one guide rail provided on a vehicle body and being movable between an opened position and a closed position along a longitudinal direction of the vehicle,

 said sliding door comprising

 a cable guide assembly for accommodating and guiding electric cables, which connect first electric elements provided in or on the vehicle body to second electric elements provided on the sliding door, and

 a guide channel for guiding the cable guide assembly on moving the sliding door, said guide channel being formed as a cavity extending along the longitudinal direction of the vehicle with two side walls parallel to each other,

 wherein said side walls of said guide channel are formed or integrated at least in sections on at least one of the inner door skin, a door module support capable of being connected with the inner door skin and the door inside trim to serve as guide surfaces for guiding said cable guide assembly,

 wherein the cable guide assembly comprises a first and a second section, wherein

 said first section is received and guided in said guide channel such that said first section can move only in the sliding plane including the longitudinal direction of the vehicle on moving the sliding door, and

 said second section is disposed outside of said guide channel and is configured such that said second section is movable or pivotable in a direction transverse to the sliding plane on displacing the sliding door into the sliding plane, and wherein

 said side walls of said guide channel limit a lateral movement of the first section of the cable guide assembly.

26. (New) The sliding door according to claim 25, wherein an end of the cable guide assembly connected to an interface element on the door side is guided in a top guide section of the guide channel, and wherein an end of the cable guide assembly connected to an interface element on the vehicle body side is guided in a bottom guide section of the guide channel.

27. (New) The sliding door according to claim 26, wherein on moving the sliding door a C-shaped turning area of the cable guide assembly, in which the direction in which said electric cables run, is reversed, passes over a central guide area which is provided between the top section and the bottom section of the guide channel.

28. (New) The sliding door according to claim 27, wherein said cable guide assembly is configured such that said C-shaped turning area is formed in any position of said sliding door.

29. (New) The sliding door according to claim 28, wherein said guide channel is configured at a front end and rear end respectively of said guide channel, if viewed in longitudinal direction of said vehicle, such that said C-shaped turning area is disposed outside of said guide channel or in a widened end area of said guide channel in the completely closed position and completely opened position of said sliding door respectively.

30. (New) The sliding door according to claim 26, wherein a cross-sectional constriction is formed between said top portion and said bottom portion of said guide channel, said cross-sectional constriction projecting into said guide channel such that said C-shaped turning area of said cable guide assembly passes long over said cross-sectional constriction when said sliding door is moved.

31. (New) The sliding door according to claim 30, wherein said guide channel is configured at a front end and rear end respectively of said guide channel, if viewed in longitudinal direction of said vehicle, such that said C-shaped turning area is disposed outside of said guide channel or in a widened end area of said guide channel in the completely closed position and completely opened position of said sliding door respectively.

32. (New) The sliding door according to claim 25, wherein a width of the guide channel in the vicinity of the side walls corresponds to a transverse dimension of the cable guide assembly in the transverse direction of the vehicle.

33. (New) The sliding door according to claim 25, wherein the guide channel further includes a sliding element guide for guiding a sliding element connected to the cable guide assembly.

34. (New) The sliding door according to claim 33, wherein the sliding element guide is formed as a longitudinal protrusion on the guide channel, which engages in a longitudinal slot of the sliding element.

35. (New) The sliding door according to claim 33, wherein a pivot bearing is formed on or attached to the sliding element, on which pivot bearing a second section of the cable guide assembly is pivotably supported so that the second section executes a pivoting movement around an axis perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the vehicle when the sliding door is displaced into the sliding plane.

36. (New) The sliding door according to claim 35, wherein the pivot bearing is designed to be C-shaped and in one piece with the sliding element.

37. (New) The sliding door according to claim 25, wherein the guide channel

is formed between the door module support and the inner door skin of the sliding door.

38. (New) The sliding door according to claim 1, wherein the guide channel is formed between the door module support and the door inside trim of the sliding door.

39. (New) The sliding door according to claim 25, wherein at least one side wall of the cavity forming said guide channel is formed on one of the door module support, the inner door skin and the door inside trim.

40. (New) The sliding door according to claim 39, wherein the cavity is formed by working an edge area of one of the door module support, the inner door skin and the door inside trim.

41. (New) The sliding door according to claim 40, wherein the at least one side wall is formed by stamping of the worked edge area of one of the door module support, the inner door skin and the door inside trim.

42. (New) The sliding door according to claim 25, wherein the first and section of said cable guide assembly is formed as a cable drag chain consisting of a plurality of chain links, said electric cables being accommodated and guided within said cable drag chain.